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THE  
French Intrigues  
DISCOVERED.

With the  
Methods and Arts  
TO  
Retrench the Potency  
OF  
FRANCE  
BY  
LAND and SEA,  
And to Confine that  
MONARCH  
Within his Antient  
DOMINIONS and TERRITORIES.

*Humbly submitted to the Consideration of the PRINCES and  
STATES of EUROPE, especially of ENGLAND.*

Written in a LETTER  
From a Person of Quality abroad, to his Correspondent here.

*Nulla potentia scelere quæsitæ, est diuturna.*

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THE  
 French Intrigues  
 DISCOVERED, &c.

SIR,

**I**N obedience to your Commands, I have soberly considered your learned Discourse; wherein are such excellent Prudentials of Government, such grave *Aphorisms* of State, and the whole composed with so great judgment, that it makes me think the Opinion of the equality of Souls, to be a Paradox: Yet I must beg your pardon, if I cannot obtain so much favour of my Reason, as to agree with you, that in this Juncture of Affairs in Europe, it's *England's Interest* to stand Neutral.

When Neighbour-Princes are at difference, and their Forces not greatly unequal, and no fear of any Parties aggrandizing it self, it may be prudence:

But when *Kingdoms* are tottering, *Nation* reeling against *Nation*, and *France* endeavouring to set up an *Empire* over the *Emperour* himself, and by the power of *Arms* reducing *Princes* and *States* under an *Universal Dominion* (as it's evident to be the *French* Designe;) then I take it, for *England* to be an idle Spectator and to sit still, is the greatest *Solæcism* in point of State: For that *Prince* which stands Neutral, and suffers his weaker Neighbours to be subdued, (except his strength doth over-balance the Victors) doth but expose himself to danger, and his own Dominions to the mercie of the Conqueror.

*Themamenes* thought it a great instance of prudence, during the *Peloponnesian War*, and the troubles of the *Athenians*, to keep himself quiet without taking part with the one or with the other; but in the end was deserted by all, his Dominions made a Prey, and his Life a Sacrifice to the prevailing Powers.

Certainly, Sir, nothing can be more becoming the wisdom of the greatest *Prince*, than to be watchful that the *States* about him should not ingreaten themselves by access of Dominions, by ruining of Confederates, blocking up of Trade, or by the like means.

Hence it was that *Sextus Quintus* being jealous of the *Spanish* Greatness, and that his designe was of aggrandizing himself, with great efficacy stirred up the *Crown of France* to assist and defend the *States of Holland*.

And for this reason of State, *Pope Julius* the second, *Maximilian* the *Emperour*, *Lewis* the twelfth of *France*, *Ferdinand* of *Aragon*, and other *Princes* and *States*, *An. Dom. 1508.* at *Cambray*, entred into a League a-

gainst the *Venetians*; yet so as the Confederates had a perpetual Eye one upon the other, that none of them should over-top.

And the best Guard which the *Italian Princes* have, is the reciprocal fear which the one of them hath of the other.

The wisest *Princes* have ever been in this point very jealous, ( and the more jealous, the less they have been deceived ; ) for then are *Kingdoms* and *States* most safe, when their Neighbouring Forces are not greatly superiour to their own Strength.

And it's prudence in a *Prince*, as well to contain his best Friends within a moderate Greatness, as to weaken and depress his most potent Enemies.

The safety of *Princes* consists in the equal counterpoise of Power ; for Power is never safe when it groweth bold and doth exceed.

And therefore it was great weakness and oversight in the Neighbouring *Princes* and *States* to the *Commonwealth* of *Rome*, to suffer it to grow to that magnitude of Reputation and Power, that when forty *Princes* and *States*, being jealous of its Power, with united Forces did endeavour to reduce it, they were all subdued ; and their Conspiracies did much contribute to the enlarging her Dominions : for by seeking to suppress *Rome*, they made them not onely provide for their own defence, but also gave them the means how they might, with more Force, better advice, and greater Power offend them.

It hath been looked upon as a great imprudence in *Lewis* the twelfth of *France*, after he had gotten *Millain*, to give Aid to *Pope Alexander* to seize upon *Romagnia* ; who thereby became so powerful, that he would have made himself Lord of *Tuscany*, if *Lewis* had not with his Army made a descent into *Italy*.

The Neighbouring *Princes* to the Signiory of *Geneva* would not suffer it ( though but a palm of ground ) to fall into the hands of the *Duke of Savoy*, or of any other Potentate of more strength than himself ; insomuch that when he besieged it *An. 1589. England*, the *State of Venice*, and *Florence*, aided them. And at another time, when the *Pope*, the *French King*, the *Spaniard*, and *Savoy*, had designs upon it, the *Emperour* offered them assistance both of men and money ; and sometimes the *Duke of Savoy* hath assisted them against the others.

So watchful were *Princes* and *States* in those times, that none of them could enlarge their Dominions, thereby to become troublesome or formidable to their Neighbours. *France* and *Spain* were the Scales of the great Balance of *Europe*, and *England* was then the Beam of that Balance, which kept it in an even Counterpoise.

And let me tell you, Sir, *England*, by observing this fundamental *Maxime* of their State, and by contributing Aid to one Party, hath ever risen in Honour and Reputation ; and most commonly hath kept both Parties at their Devotion, and in Dependancy, the one in hopes of Succors from them, the other for fear of their giving Assistance against them.

And in case *England* should not take any Party, yet in prudence a Fleet must be equipped, Souldiers raised, an Army maintained, and all this Expence and Charge without any Fruit or Glory ; otherwise the Scene of the War may be turned upon you, and the Ambition of the Victor may erect his Trophies, and extend his Triumphs into *England*.

Whereas by giving Aid unto one Party, you will maintain a Spring and Seminary of brave men at the expence of others, ( which will make you considerable to your Neighbours. ) And in case of an Accommodation

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or Peace, you shall be sure therein to be comprized ; which will be your Safety : Otherwise you will remain friendless, exposed to the charity of the Conqueror, and to the scorn and contempt of the Conquered ; who upon all occasions will meditate revenge against you for not giving them your Aid, and it may be that both Parties with united Forces may attempt against you.

However, that *Prince* or *State* which will stand for a *Cypher*, when in prudence he is obliged to arm, shall with *Servilius* in *Rome*, please neither side ; of whom the Historian observeth, that *P. Servilius* *medius se gerendo, nec Plebis vitavit odium, nec apud Patres gratiam inivit.*

*Henry the Eighth* ( amongst several other Princes ) understood this *Maxime of England* so well, that he assumed unto himself this Motto, *Cui adhareo, præest.*

Sometimes he would make *Charles the Fifth* weigh down, sometimes *Francis the First.*

*Anno 1522.* at *Cambray* he settled all *Europe* in quiet ( when it was much-turmoiled ) and *Italy* in security ; therefore he was stiled, *Protector of the Clementine League* : the Instrument whereof doth still remain in the *Treasury at Westminster* sealed with gold.

And *Clement the Seventh* being coop'd up by *Charles the Fifth* in the *Castle of St. Angelo*, was freed by the means of *Henry of England* ; and therefore by the whole Consistory of *Rome*, he was called *Liberator Orbis.*

*Charles the Fifth*, *An. 1521.* was by him made *Emperour*, as he doth acknowledge in two Letters to *Henry of England* ; and indeed he was the great Arbitrator of all the Affairs of *Europe* in his time.

If *Henry the Eighth* was so much celebrated for keeping the ballance in *æquilibrio*, what Glory and Renown will his now *Sacred Majesty of Great Britain* have, by putting a Barricado to the Ambition of the *French Empire*, and reintegrating all *Princes* and *States* in their ancient Liberties and just Rights, and settling the Peace of all *Europe* upon a solid Basis ? which onely by his Wisdom and Power is to be effected.

An Act certainly so full of Grandeur, that it will tread upon the grave of History, bury Monuments, see the Worlds funeral, Time laid in the dust, and stand up with Eternity.

The glory of Sovereignty consists not in a Chair of State, but in such Acts as are well-becoming a *Prince*. Private men may direct their Counsels to such things as they think may be profitable to them, but the Actions of *Princes* must tend to Grandeur, and the attaining of Honour and Fame.

For want of due observation of this prime and *Alphabetical Maxime of England*, the *French King* of late hath risen up to that Greatness, and is arrived to that *Pyramid of Grandeur*, that *Europe* begins to bow to his Power.

Universal Empire was first attempted by *Charles the Fifth*, designed by *Henry the Great*, but will be effected ( if not timely prevented ) by *Lewis the Potent.*

And how great a Progress he hath made towards so vast a Designe, it well becomes your great Judgment to consider.

He hath gotten *Brisac* and *Friburg*, to enter *Germany* ; the *French Comte*, to awe the *Switzers* ; *Pignoral*, to enter *Italy* ; *Perpignan*, to enter *Spain* ; and almost all *Flanders*, to enter *England*. Besides, he hath im-patronized himself of the Countries of *Roussillon* and *Catalonia*, the *Dutchies* of

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of *Lorraine* and *Barr*, *Alsatia*, *Burgundy*; The *French Comte*, all the *Spanish Netherlands* are in his Talons, and he hath a hovering possession of the remainder, as a Hobby hath over a Lark.

The *Italian* Garison in *Avignon* is casheer'd, and he is Master of that place, though it was part of *St. Peter's* possession three hundred years.

The Garison of Foreign Souldiers which were in *Orange*, is dismissed, and the Castle is dismantled which was in the bowels of one of his Provinces.

What will he not be able to compass against the rest of *Europe*, when he hath gotten the Accession of *Germany* and all the *Low Countries*, to that already too boundless Power, by which he hath inflav'd his own people, and subjected them to an absolute Vassalage?

Can *England* and the rest of *Europe* expect better terms than he hath given to his own Subjects? 'Tis well if he allow them Canvas and Sawlows.

By Sea he is become so potent, that I question if he were but furnished with Mariners and experienced Commanders suitable to the goodness of his Ships, if he might not contrast the power of all *Europe*, and make the Sea between *Callis* and *Dover* as a Ferry to pass over what Armies he pleased into *England*.

In the beginning of the year 1665. he was not able to put to Sea twenty Ships of War; now he hath two hundred and upwards, and many larger than most in *Europe*, and is every day building more. Is it not then necessary for *England*, the *United Netherlands*, and all *Europe*, to look about them, and to secure their Necks against the Yoke of Slavery with which he threatens them? If some timely Expedient be not applied, from this Naval Power of *France* the destruction of *Europe* may take its date before we be much older.

It will much concern *England* in point of Interest, to consider if *Ireland* by the Scheme of their delignes, may not be looked upon as a Country which may procure *France* the absolute dominion of the Sea, of Trade, and the Conquest of the *West Indies*; which have been their antient Project.

For he being so potent at Sea, they may from *Brest* transmit an Army into *Ireland* (they having many of the *Irish* Nation in their service, and those discontented) if they should seize upon *Kingsale* or *Waterford*, and keep a good Squadron of Ships there, (which they may do, having such numbers of Men of War). And though it should not prove the loss of that Nation, yet it would obstruct and debar all Trade upon those Seas: And if you have any Ship pass there, it must be by their favour, and paying what Tribute they please to impose.

Be assured, Sir, the *French Cabal* have some notable Designe against *England*, either to engage you in a Civil War by disseminating of Divisions amongst you, thereby to put a disability upon his Majesty of *Great Britain* to give any Assistance, or contribute any Aid to the relief of the *Spanish* or *United Netherlands*, in case by his Arms he should attack them, as without dispute he will, in case there be not a stop put to his Career.

Or peradventure the *French King* (if the *Capricio* shall take him) may by his Arms give disturbance to *England* it self: For he cannot think it safe to proceed in his Conquest on the Continent, whiles he hath so dangerous an Enemy as *England* at his reer. He well knows the Courage and Gallantry of the *English*, and your *Talbots* and *Bedfords* are not by them forgotten.

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They are setting up an *Universal Monarchy of Commerce*, and to make *France* the *Staple of Trade*; and to that purpose do labour to get what Ports they can into their power.

After the *Pyrenean Peace*, they immediately entred into a League Offensive and Defensive with *Portugal*, though contrary to the Faith of that Treaty; and all the Harbours and Ports which the *Portugal* should take in *Spain*, either upon the one or other Sea, were to be put into the power of *France*.

No sooner was *Dunkirk* in the *French King's* hands, but he made it a free Port. And that he might want no Seamen of his own, he hath by all imaginable Encouragements, established a mighty Navigation in *France*, and thereby will lay the foundation of a greater Empire than ever was in *Charlemain*.

For one trading Ship twenty years since, there are now forty. For this purpose he hath propagated the Fishery in *Newfound Land* (which is the *Propriety* of the Crown of *England*) and where they formerly (till now of late) never fished but by License, and paying a Tribute to the Kings of *England*; and besides, hath yearly educated supernumerary Seamen on board the French Trading-Ships at his own charges.

He hath engaged most of his Nobility in the *East* and *West Indian* Trades; and the better to encourage them, hath granted many Priviledges to them.

And without doubt, by reason of his great preparations by Sea, he hath some great Designe in projection. If he shall propose to make himself Master of the *Indies*, I do not see how he can fail in his Attempts, if *Europe* be not more watchful.

By an *Ordinance* of the *French Privy Council* (which is the now standing Law of that Kingdom) all the Officers and Commanders in the *Islands of America*, are strictly enjoined and required to secure to the Most *Christian King* the Sovereignty of those Seas; and the *French* in execution of it, have much interrupted the Trade there, and have proved very vexatious.

And having erected the *East India Trade*, he hath attempted to get footing in divers places in the *East Indies*: What his success may be, time will shew.

But if he should unite the *Dutch Trade* and Strengths in those parts to himself, by an Union of the *United Provinces*, and their Navigation to his Empire, (as he will, if some timely Assistance be not given by *England*) how the *English Factories* there will then preserve themselves from Violation or utter Extirpation, it doth well become *England* to consider: For *France* designs to engross the Trade of the *Universe*.

And by their irregular course of Trade, they will exhaust all *Europe* of their Money. I have heard that *England* loseth yearly by the *French Trade* 1500000 *l. sterling*; and I am sure they draw out of the Northern Regions of *Europe*, for Wines, 25 Millions of *Florens*; for Salt 10 Millions of *Florens*; for Brandy 5 Millions; for Wines, Brandy, and Salt, they yearly exhaust from thence 40 Millions of *Florens*; for Silks, Stuffs, Toys, and Fripparies, they spirit out of those Countries yearly 40 Millions of *Florens*: and there is not imported into *France* of the Commodities of all the North so many as do amount unto 15 Millions of *Florens*. So that *France* doth yearly drain out of the Northern Regions of *Europe* 65 Millions of *Florens*. And what great and prodigious sums of money he draweth from the rest of *Europe*, must be left to sober men to consider.

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But no Foreign Commodities can be imported into *France*, but they are clog'd and incumbered with such great Duties and Customs, that the return made thereof to the Merchant is without any profit.

His Most *Christian* Majesty having for his Royal Revenue *Sixty Millions* of *Florens* yearly, and *France* being enriched yearly as abovesaid, and being able by his supream power, without any check or controul, to impose what Taxes he pleases; he hath laid such an inexhaustible *Fond* of Treasure to carry on his designs to the Oppression of all *Europe*, that he can rarely be disappointed or fail in any: He can support his Armies, when other Princes are enforced to beg for Peace because their Treasures are exhausted.

He, after many years War, can engage in a new War; and upon occasions, by reason of his Treasure, have Instruments to execute his Projects.

By this he purchases the assistance of Foreign *Princes*, and endears their *Ministers*, opens their *Cabinets*, engageth true and close Correspondencies, and poysons their Councils. By this he can pass unseen through Rampiers and Guards into Cities and Forts, and can surprize them, without tedious hazards of Guards. And many contemplative men think that he hath gained more Territories and Dominions by his *Pistols*, than by his *Sword* and *Cannon*: So that the *Serpent* is more serviceable to them than the *Dragon*, as acting with less noise and greater execution. Ambition is the Compass whereby they sail, and Universal Dominion the Port whereunto their course is directed; and as their Ambition hath no *Horizon*, so their Designs have no *Latitude*.

*Charles the fifth* his Motto, *Plus Ultra*, and his Son *Philip's*, *Non sufficit Orbis*, discovered their vast Ambition: And doth not that of *Lewis* the eleventh, *Immensi tremor Oceani*, and that of *Lewis* the fourteenth, *Solus contra Omnes*, manifest the Designs of *France*?

Well, if there be not a Retrenchment of the spreading and ambitious Designs of *France*, I am sometimes of the opinion, that the Most *Christian* King may ere long take upon him that jolly humour of the great *Cham* of *Tartary*; who when he hath dined, commands his Trumpeters to sound, and make proclamation that now all other Kings and Princes may sit down to dinner.

It will be worth the while, that all *Europe* may be satisfied of the Conduct of the *French Cabal*, to consider the candor and integrity of their Actions for some years last past; and whether they may expect better Principles and Methods from them for the future, than they have hitherto had. The first Essay of their Ingenuity and Honesty, was in their behaviour and carriage in the *Pyrenean Treaty*, and their performance thereof.

By the Endeavours of the *Queen-Mother* of *France*, a Peace being promoted between the two Crowns of *France* and *Spain*, with a Marriage between the *French King* and the *Infanta* of *Spain*; the whole Treaty was founded upon two considerable points: The one was the forsaking of *Portugal*; the other a Renunciation of the *Infanta* (ratified by the *French King*) of all her present or future pretences, titles, or claims whatsoever to the Spanish Monarchy and Dominions thereof; which if not granted, the great work of the Match had never taken effect. As to the first, the *French King* did promise and oblige himself upon his *Honour*, and upon the *Faith* of a King, not to give at present or for the future, neither in common, nor to any person or persons thereof in particular, any help



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help or assistance, neither publick nor secret, directly or indirectly, of Men, Munition, &c. under any pretence whatsoever.

Yet the Peace was no sooner made, but they sent them Supplies of Men, Arms, and Money ; and a while after, notwithstanding their former Treaty with *Spain* in the view of the whole world, they entred into an *Offensive* League with that Kingdom against all their Enemies.

The other was the Renunciation aforementioned : And as to this, the *French King*, after the death of the late *King of Spain*, claimed ( notwithstanding the said Renunciation ) a great part of the *Spanish Low Countries*, as being devolved to him in the Right of his Wife ; and to take possession thereof, invaded the Country contrary to his Engagements, and so destructive to the Essence of the Treaty, with a powerful Army. The *Marquis de la Fuente* extraordinary Embassadour from *Spain*, being upon his return into *Spain*, upon the death of the late King his Master, his Most *Christian* Majesty did with all possible Asseverations engage his Faith and his *Royal Vow*, That he would religiously observe and keep the Peace, and continue a faithful Friendship both to the *Queen of Spain* and to her Son.

And the *Archbishop of Ambrun*, after the French Army was already in the Field, and had possessed *Charleroy*, some five days before the News of it came to *Madrid*, did *in verbo Sacerdotis*, and upon all that is most sacred, protest and vow to the *Queen*, That his Master intended nothing less than what was reported of him, and would not break with the *King of Spain*, or invade his Dominions, as long as he was under age.

These Circumstances are more surprizing than the Breach it self. But the March of the French Army, and the Hostility they committed, agreeing so little with their Vows and Promises, and the same being complained of, they answered, It was no Breach ; and that they onely came fairly and in a friendly manner to take possession of what belonged to them.

This War, or as the *French* term it, a Friendly possessing of their own, ended by a Treaty at *Aix* ; after which, contrary to the faith of that Treaty, they first dismantled the strong places and holds of the *County of Burgundy*, carried away all Munition out of the Country ; and notwithstanding the same Treaty at *Aix*, they exacted great Contributions from the *Dutchies of Limburg and Luxemburg*, and laid a new Claim to some Towns as important as any of those granted to them by the Peace, and confiscated the Estates of the Subjects of the *King of Spain* that would not forswear their Allegiance. If these Infractions, and many more, are not sufficient to awaken *England* and all *Europe*, I know not what will.

Since the Treaty at *Nimmeguen*, such have been the actings of the *French Ministers*, such Contraventions thereof, such horrid Injustice hath been committed and executed upon the Subjects of his *Catholick* Majesty in the *Spanish Netherlands*, and else where, notwithstanding the great Territories granted to the Most *Christian King* by that fatal and destructive Peace ( which all *Europe* may have time enough to repent and lament ) that no King in the world can in justice own or give any countenance thereunto. Certainly these men act as if great sins would merit Heaven by an *Antiperistasis*. Thus they have dealt with *Spain*.

Let us see how other *Princes* have fared with them.

We'll begin with the *Duke of Lorrain*, who by the *Pyrenean Treaty* was to be restored to his *Duchie of Lorrain*, with all the places and Towns which he had possessed in the *Bishopricks of Metz, Toul, and Verdun* ; but

but contrary to the Treaty, the *French* King refused to restore it, and to this day doth detain it; and ordered one of his Generals to seize his person, and to bring him either dead or alive, (as it's the usual practice of all Usurpers to destroy those they have dispossessed and injured): and it was very near being effected.

A new way of dealing with a Sovereign Prince, not yet known in these parts of the world, and which gives some hopes to *Europe* of seeing ere long the *West* governed by *Bashaws*, as well as the *East*. None but an *Universal Monarch* can pretend to a Right of displacing *Princes*, and disposing both of their Lives and Territories: And therefore nothing could deserve a higher Resentment, nor a more vigorous Opposition from all the *Kings* and *Princes* of *Europe*.

The Kingdom of *Poland* comes next; which hath lain a bleeding ever since they had a *French Queen*, and which is at this instant in imminent danger of being conquered by the *Turks*, through the means of the *French Cabal*, who have called into the Kingdom the Enemy of the Christian name, meerly because they could not have a King either of *French Blood* or of *French Interest*.

The *Duke* of *Newburg* was not better used, whom they caused to engage the greatest part of his Estate almost beyond redemption, in hopes of the *Polish* Crown which they had promised to raise him to, by the help of a strong Party they had made in that Kingdom: Yet underhand, contrary both to their Treaties (as well with the *Elect*or of *Brandenburg*, as with himself) and to their reiterated Promises and Vows, both by word of mouth and in writing, they did by their Creatures and Agents oppose the said *Duke's* pretension, and endeavoured with all industry to have the *Prince* of *Conde* preferred before all other Competitors.

Nothing certainly can be a greater instance of the perfidiousness and treachery of the *French Ministers*, and how little faith or credit is to be given to any of their Promises or Vows. If there were no other instance thereof, this alone were sufficient to alarm the World to be careful and advised how they put any trust in them.

The *Emperour* hath as little reason to thank them; for at the very time when the Most *Christian* King sent his Forces to joyn with his Army against the *Turks*, they began to settle a Correspondence with the Counts *Serini*, *Franchipani*, *Nadasty*, and *Toffenback*; from whence that so-well-known Conspiracy hath since broken out, as it hath been made apparent by the Depositions and Confessions of some of the Accomplices, who had been instrumental in carrying both Money and Letters from the *French* Ministers at *Vienna*.

All the Confusions, Distempers, and Wars in *Hungary*, have been raised and continued by the Practices and Intrigues of *France*. And they have given disturbance to all *Germany* by their private Treaties and Correspondencies with several *Princes*, contrary to the Treaty at *Munster*.

To which may be added, That one of the greatest Motives of bringing the *Turks* into *Poland*, was the Marriage of the *Empress's* Sister with their King.

Yet it must be owned, that the *French* seem to have repented their pernicious Intrigues and caballing in that Kingdom: For when they saw the *Emperour* preparing in earnest to assist the *Dutch* (in the late Wars they made against them) to work him from that designe, and to engage him (if it had been possible) not to concern himself or take part in the Quarrel;

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Quarrel; they very fairly offered him to put into his hands and deliver him all the original Letters they had from their Creatures and Friends in *Poland*, to the end both his *Imperial Majesty* and the *King of Poland* his Brother might take what course they thought fit with those *Rebels*.

A fair warning to all those that prefer French Money before their Loyalty, and the true Interest of their Country.

Nay, I doubt the *Swedes*, their good friends, have not always been pleased with them; and they cannot to this day forget, that about eighteen years since, having made a Treaty with the *French*, whereby they were to receive by way of gratuity or pension sixteen hundred thousand Crowns, the *French* (upon second thoughts) finding their Treaty with *Sweden* of little use to them, refused to ratifie it; and sent their Monsieur de *Trelon*, who without more words told them in short, That the King his Master declared it to be void. A fine Court-stile for one Prince to use to another! and a short Majestick way of rescinding all Treaties.

These are stupendious passages, and will be no more credited by Posterity, than we do what is said of King *Arthur's* round Table.

It's needless to tell you, how they have observed their Treaties with *Holland*; for all *Europe* hath taken notice of it.

They are in continual acquets of Dominion by force or fraud; and what they get by fraud, they keep by force: for the Sword, with them, is ever better than halt the Title to any Dominion.

They do not onely pursue, but commonly wound their Adversary, before they declare him such, or give him leisure to draw. They first invade a Princes Territories, and after set up their Title and Cause of War. They are not concerned, that all the world observe their pretence to be false and trifling, vain and unjust, warranted by no other reason than that of absolute and unbounded Will, which are the foundation and conclusion of all the Actions (of the Most *Christian King*) and Wars abroad, as well as of his Laws and Edicts at home, expressed in these imperious words, *Tel est Nostre Plaiser*.

It's a prime *Maxime* of the *French Cabal*, That that Prince which wars for his Glory, and avows Power to be the Rule, and Strength the Law of Justice, may without Right enter upon any Princes Dominions, and may in Honour and Justice detain them, so they be of conveniency to him to keep them.

The *Dukes* of *Lorrain*, *Deux-ponts*, and *Menthelward*, and the ten free Towns in *Alsatia*, sufficiently prove the truth thereof.

They have erected at *Metz*, a Court where his Most *Christian Majesty*, as Judge and Party, cites the most *August* and Illustrious Houses of the Empire, (which he hath nothing to do withal) to make their appearance, and to give him an account by what Right they possess that which their Predecessors have for three or four hundred years peaceably enjoyed.

His pretensions are to the greatest part of *Lorrain*, the whole *Dukedom* of *Deux-ponts*, and the best part of *Alsatia* as far as *Lanterburg*. These, as ancient Dependencies of the *Bishopricks* of *Metz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*, and *Thersow*, must be reunited to that Crown, because they are of conveniency for him. By this all Kings, Princes, and States, may see what they are to expect, if they come within the *despotic* power of *France*.

All Princes and States which may give them any jealousy, they keep employed, and deligne to depress all Powers which are capable of obstructing the Torrent of their Ambition. All *Europe* is sensible thereof, to



their grief: They have engaged the *Suedes* to embroil the *Empire*; which they did to the loss of all their Territories and Dominions in *Germany*: And they brought the *Turks* upon the *Muscovites*, whereby the *Swedish* Army in *Livonia*, was let loose upon the *Confederate* Princes.

They worked the *Messinese*s to form a Rebellion against his *Catholick* Majesty (their Sovereign Prince) in *Sicily*, and had gotten *Messina* into their power, where they had a potent Fleet of Men of War, thereby to give Law to all which should pass upon the *Mediterranean*. But afterwards (because they could not keep it) did most perfidiously desert them; whereby those poor people were exposed to the displeasure of an enraged Prince, and to the greatest miseries and calamities imaginable. A fair warning to all ambitious and discontented persons, who shall quit their Allegiance which they owe to their natural Prince.

They are continually brooding of Mischief, and labouring to enlarge their Empire, herein imitating the *Grand Seignior* of *Asia*, who first subdued *Asia Minor*, then he passed over into *Europe*, and conquered all *Greece*; next he falls upon *Syria*, *Egypt*, and *Armenia*, till at last he came as far as *Moldavia* and *Hungary*. And doth not the *French Cabal* observe the same method? conquering or surprizing one Dominion after another, by Arms endeavouring to reduce the Seventeen Provinces under his Obedience, and also *Germany*; labouring some of the Princes thereof to stand Neutral, working others to their Party by proposals of Matches and other Artifices; and will in short time (if not prevented) shake hands with the other *Grand Seignior* of *Asia*.

They have now in designe, by the power of their Arms, to procure the *Dauphin* to be elected *King* of the *Romans*. Are not the persons and Estates of the three Ecclesiastical *Electors*, and of the *Prince Palatine* of the *Rhine*, every hour exposed to the Violences and Irruptions of the Arms of the *French*? It may easily be foreseen (without the help of *Galileas* Prospective) whether by force or promises (which will never be kept) they may not give their Suffrages for that ambitious Crown; and how far the *Marquess* of *Brandenburg* may be prevailed with, by reason of that dishonourable Peace patched up at the Congress at *Nimwegen*, a little time will discover. But if the *Dauphin* shall be advanced to the Imperial Dignity, will not *Germany* become a Province to the *French* Monarchy? (the fatal consequences whereof let *Europe* soberly consider.) Can the Princes thereof expect better terms than they have given to the *Duke* of *Lorraine*? For certain, the Protestants will be sure of the same usage and infelicities which the poor *Hugonots* are now under in *France*: For Fire and Fagot must be proœmial to his Universal Monarchy.

Disimulation is the best support of the *French* Interest, and the first step to their Grandeur: And to deal plainly with you, that *Prince* which will lay the foundation of Empire by Cruelty, must build the Superstructures by dissimulation. The whole Globe of Miseries, Calamities, and Infelicities, which *Europe* hath suffered for many years, we must own to the unlucky contrivance and ambitious designs of the *French Cabal*.

If there be not a Retrenchment of the Grandeur and Potency of that aspiring Monarch, I have so much of an *Astrologer* in me, that I can foretel what will be the fate of *Europe*: *France*, like a perpetual *Ætna*, will fling Fire and Flames, Bloud and Confusion, into the Dominions of the Kings and Princes of *Europe*; and will be more dreadful to his Neighbours, than the Indian Hurricanes are to the Natives there.



## [ II ]

The common Inſcription of his Cannon, *Ratio ultima Regum*, is by him inverted to a contrary ſence, and made a publick Warning to mankind, That he deſignes, as God did of old, to give Law to the world in Thunder and Lightning: To ſcatter by the flames of his Artillery, all thoſe Clouds of Confederate Forces that ſhall eclipse the Majeſty of his Glory. He makes the power of his Arms, his firſt and laſt reaſon.

His *Device*, the *Sun* in its Meridian, with this Motto, *Non pluribus impar*, ſufficiently ſhews his intentions for the Univerſal Monarchy; and the haughty opinion he conceives of his being the onely perſon qualified for the government of more Worlds than one, declares his reſolutions of admitting no Rivals in Sovereignty; looking upon all other Princes but as ſo many ſmaller *Stars* or wandring *Planets*, compared with him the *Sun*, from whom they are to receive their borrowed light or power as it ſhall pleaſe his *Mightineſs* to diſpence. So that crowned heads, Princes, and Republicks, as well as their Subjects, are to expect the ſame meat of Slavery; and though that be not ſweat, yet the Sawce will be ſour, *Poinant* to all, though perhaps a little differenced. The former may be allowed *Golden*, while the latter are to be manacled with *Iron Chains*.

And be aſſured, he that makes War for his Glory, hath more ambition to put his Chains on Princes and States, than on their People. His thoughts are as large as any of the *Roman Emperours*; and they eſteemed it a greater glory to lead one *King* in Triumph, than a thouſand *Subjects* of ſeveral Kingdoms.

He doth purpoſe to make all *Princes* and *States* of *Europe* Vaffals and Tributaries to his Univerſal *Empire*; and rather than fail, he hath deſigned to bring in the *Turks*, (with whom, they will tell you, they have contracted an entire Friendſhip) in whoſe Court he hath found help to make his Coin currant. Nor is that *infallible* man at *Rome* to eſcape, at leaſt to the Temporal part of his power, which he hath not as he ought employed for the *French* Interſt; but will abrogate that great Authority in which his Predeceſſors *Pipin* and *Charlemain's* Charity have veſted him; and without doubt, will pull down his *ſpiritual Grandeur*, by fixing it in a *Gallican Patriarch*: and ſo his *Holineſs*, inſtead of being *Chriſts* Vicar, will be made a *French Curate*.

And ſome of the *Princes* of *Germany* and *Italy*, which now ſeem unconcerned, will, when it's too late, repent the oversight.

Sir, it's ſtoried, when *Beaſts* had *Kings*, the *Lions* had the Sovereignty every one of them within his peculiar Foreſt. Whiles their ſtrengths were equal, they lived neighbourly; none inſulted over the other: At laſt time produced a *Lion* ſtronger than the reſt, who diſdaining to be kept within the Precincts left by his Progenitors, preyed upon the Foreſt adjoining: The other *Lions* fearing their particular Eſtates or Walks, conſulted for remedy; the way reſolved upon, waſt to pare his Nails.

Your Prudence, Sir, will eaſily make the Moral.

Certainly, it's the true Interſt of *Europe*, for all *Kings*, *Princes*, and *States* to unite for their common ſafety, and to act in concert; and not onely to chaſe that ambitious and-aſpiring Prince out of his new Conqueſts, but to confine him to his ancient Empire, and his own Dominions.

A devouring *Lion* which is never ſatiated with Prey, muſt be chained up.

The Conqueſt of *Naples* by *Charles* the Eighth, occaſioned a Confederacy of all the Neighbouring Princes againſt him; whereby he ſoon loſt that he had gotten.

Look

Look into *Asia*, did not the *Grand Seignior* pick up one Commonwealth after another (the one giving no Aid or Assistance to the other, but looking on with their hands in their pockets) till at last he reduced them all under his Empire? and what was the fatal consequence thereof, is well known.

How much more then are the Arms of *France* to be dreaded, whose power is mightier than that was of the *Turks*!

And every new acquist and accession of Territories enlarges his desires, and makes that Prince think, that which before seemed not onely difficult but impossible, to be easie and feasible.

Ambition is never so high, but it still thinks to mount; and that Station which lately seemed the top, is but a step to her now; and what before was great in desiring, seems little, being once in power.

The Successes of the *French* have already made them think no Enterprize too hard, and still prompts them to push on their good fortune; which nothing can withstand, but a general opposition of all the *Princes* and *States* of *Europe*. *Dum singuli pugnant, universi vincuntur.*

Sir, I must confess you are obliged in all duty to acknowledge his Majesty of *Great Britain's* incomparable Wisdom, great Vigilancy, and dextrous Conduct of Affairs, that you have been hitherto preserved in Peace and Prosperity, when the whole Neighbourhood hath been infested with Fire and Sword, and had no other Prospect but Blood and Confusion.

But by sad experience you will finde, that if you do not vigorously contribute your Assistance to put a stop to the progress of the *French* Arms, that the natural strength and scituation of *England*, can be no sufficient defence against the power of *France*, when to that he hath already, is added all the rest of *Europe*; unless you can dream that your Fleets by Sea and Armies at Land are able to contrast and secure you against that power which hath subdued all *Europe*. I have observed, that the neglect of beginnings, many times makes the Disease mortal and incurable. The vivacity and boldness of brisk Resolutions, always bring forth fortunate proceedings, and glorious conclusions. The way down hill is easie and ordinary; but to ascend unto the top of Glory, requireth Wisdom to frame the steps, and Courage to give the attempt.

As sudden Resolutions are always dangerous, so no less peril ensueth of slow and doubtful Delays. In times of Danger, it's more safe to be found in Action than Counsel.

*Cunctatio servilis, statim exequi regium est.*

I am in my Constellation under *Mercury*, not *Mars*, and desire Peace; but I am of that Princes minde, not to take up Peace at the interest of Danger to ensue. A wise State ought to desire Peace; but it's necessary to be prepared for War.

<sup>a</sup>In *Puglia* in *Naples*, if any be bitten by a *Tarantula*, it's not to be cured but by Musick onely. You are bitten in your Trade, and wounded in your Traffick; there is nothing will cure you but the noise of Cannon, and sound of Drum and Trumpet.

But you are pleased to say that you are in League with *France*, and a Rupture on your part would be unjust; it's not honourable to break Leagues, which are the Tye and Cement of Nations.

The *French* King will grant us any terms.

## [ 13 ]

I do not deny, but he will grant you any terms ; but the more advantageous terms you have (if you consider the *Genius* of the *French* Nation) the more ought it to be your fear and jealousy of their breaking of them. But when *France* shall be brought to more Equality, better and more advantageous Conditions will be drawn from him, and he will be well advised before he break them.

Sir, I must tell you, there is no Faith or Trust in *France*, but in its puissance to do hurt. *France* hath ever preferr'd interest of State before the faith of Treaties and Leagues ; and that made the Duke of *Rohan* observe, that Princes command over the People, and Interest commands over Princes.

Leagues and Alliances, as they are made for Interest, so Interest will dissolve them ; and foreign Friendship lasts no longer than it's advanced with mutual Interest.

All Leagues and Alliances made with *France*, are but as the *Rod of Mercury*, to charm them asleep with whom they are made.

It was truly observed by *Lyfander the Greek*, that Children are to be deceived with Toys, but Princes with Oaths and Leagues : And you know it's a prime *Maxime* in the *Cabal of France*, That Leagues and Alliances are to be made for Interest, and not on designe to keep them ; For a Prince ought not to be a Slave to his Faith or Word.

What Leagues, Alliances, or Treaties can be reckoned, which the *French* Ministers have not violated ? Have they not broken the famous *Pyrenean* Treaty confirmed by Oaths and Sacraments, and contrary to a solemn Renunciation, and the double Tyes of Bloud and Marriage ? Before a Breach complained of, or a War declared, they invaded the Territories of an Infant King. Have they not by Addresses and Cunning, by Bribes and Rewards, endeavoured to corrupt most of the Ministers of State in *Europe* ? How well they have kept the Articles of Peace concluded at *Westphalia* and *Nimmeguen*, the *Emperour*, *King of Spain*, and *Princes of Germany*, can tell you. And can you prudently hope that the future Practices of the Most *Christian* King will be more just than his former ? He that hath broken thorow so many Obligations, Alliances, and Treaties, will he not do so again ?

Be assured, Sir, you cannot anchor any faith or confidence in the Alliance or Friendship of *France* ; for *France* is a *floating Island*, and no *Terra firma*. It's prudence to keep an Enemy at the Swords point, and not to suffer him to come within you. The *Spanish* Dominions are the Fountain from whence you draw a great part of your Traffick, and by consequence your Riches.

The *Netherlands* are the *Out-works of England* ; if they are taken, you are weak and dismantled. And let me tell you, Sir, the *day of the Ruine of Flanders*, is the *eve of the Subversion of England*.

If the *United Provinces* should be brought under the subjection of *France*, it would be a thing of that dreadful consequence, that the very thoughts of it must needs raise the blood of all true English men. They are so situated, that several of the greatest Rivers in *Europe* not onely run thorow their Country, but disembogue into the Ocean within their Precincts. If the *French* make themselves Masters of the Rivers, (as it's their designe and endeavour) will they not in a short time bring all the *Havens*, and all the Inhabitants bordering upon the Sea, under the same subjection ?



The Sea-ports without the Rivers, and the Rivers without the Sea-ports, being altogether useless; if they be reduced under the Obedience of the *French*, their Country will be the Nursery of his Sea-men, and in all other respects the support of his Naval strength. If they must be Slaves, will it not be some satisfaction to them to lend a helping hand to bring their Neighbours, and in truth all *Europe*, into the same condition with themselves?

The conquering of the *United Provinces*, is not onely a fair step, but it's the best part of the way to the Universal Monarchy: They being conquered, the *Spanish Netherlands* will of course fall into their hands, being the Key which opens the door to the Throne of that Monarchy. And if you do not act vigorously with the rest of the Confederates, the Most *Catholick* King will be enforced to take new Measures, and break with you.

I need not use many words to make all *England* sensible of the sad consequence of a *Spanish* War: 1. The seizure of all your Merchants Estates, amounting in the whole to a vast sum. 2. The loss of your Trade with them; which of all others is the most beneficial to *England*, and without which your Woollen draperies must lie upon your hands, and half of your Weavers and Spinners, &c. go a begging. 3. The interruption of your *Levant* and Plantation-trade, which cannot in case of a Breach, be secured by ordinary Convoys. With what encouragement or safety can your Traders venture abroad, when the Seas come to be infested with *Ostenders*, *Biscainers*, *Majorcans*, and *Minorcans*? Did not those very men, without any help, take above 1500 Ships from you in the late *Spanish* War, when *Spain* was at the lowest, and fought alone against *England* and *France*? I could offer many other reasons, but I am unwilling to be troublesome.

When the *French* King suffered the Duke of Alençon his Brother to take upon him the Title of Duke of Brabant, and defence of those Countries, he sent an Embassadour into *Spain* to excuse his Brother's going thither, and signifie unto the *Spanish* King, that which was done, was done without his privity or consent. The *Spanish* King was highly displeased with the Message, and answered the Embassadour, That he had rather have the *French* King his professed Enemy, than a dissembling Friend. And whether *England* ought not to have the same Sentiments, I pray consider.

The *French* have no kindness for *England*, but an inlaid and hereditary Malice against them. When Lewis of *France* sent an Army into *England* to the assistance of the Barons there, against King John their Sovereign Prince, he vowed utterly to extinguish the *English* Nation; whom he held vile, unjust, perfidious, and never to be trusted, as it was declared with much compunction by Viscount Melun, a French Gentleman, lying at the point of death.

And I can easily believe that the same Rancor doth yet run in the veins of the *French*. I pray, Sir, who contrived and encouraged the Distempers of the Scots against King Charles the First? was it not *France*? And the Peace at Rippon, Anno 1639. being concluded between the two Nations (but much against their will,) did not *France* stir them up to break that Peace, and to make a second attempt by their Arms on *England*? Which they durst never have done, if they had not received countenance and encouragement from *France*.

By their Emissaries they formed a Rebellion in *England*, and underhand sup-



## [ 15 ]

supported it ; and his Majesties Forces being defeated and broken, *France* look'd on till that great King was sacrificed to the Tyranny of his worst Enemies. His now most Sacred Majesty (*England* being hang'd all with Blacks, and the best of his Subjects weeping over the Kingdoms funeral ) for the safety of his person, retired into *France* ; where he might have expected protection from so near a Relation, and comfort as a distressed Prince, but found none : for by virtue of an execrable Treaty made with the then Usurper, he was forced to forsake that Kingdom, or else would have been resigned up to *Cromwel*. For the chief Article of that Alliance was, That his Majesty, the *Dukes* of *York* and *Gloucester*, with all their Relations and Friends, should be expelled out of, and no more admitted into the Kingdom of *France*.

If the *French* King had had the least trillo or touch of Honour in him, he would never have yielded to such a Condition, as to banish out of his Kingdom those who came to him for succour and relief, in the utmost extremity that ever Princes were put to ; and they his nearest Relations, being his Sisters Children. And what could be more unbecoming so great a Prince, than to make a League Offensive with him who had murdered their Father, and expelled them out of their Dominions ?

What was this but the owning of that Murder, and aggravating their Oppressions instead of relieving of them ? Such practices as these amongst private Christians would be abominable, and much more amongst any Kings, not stiled the Most *Christian*.

But you may observe, that neither Honour or Relations, can stand in competition with Self-interest.

Did they not oppose his Majesties restauration to the *Imperial Crown* of his *Royal* Ancestors ? Did they not cabal with his greatest Enemies, to keep him out of his Kingdom ? Of which his now Majesty was so sensible, that upon his coming into *England*, he commanded away the French Embassadour *Bordenx*, and would not suffer him to come into his presence.

In the times of the Usurpation in *England*, they were the mischievous Instruments of the War between you and the *States* of the *United Provinces*, as they were of the two following in 1665. and 1671. dreading nothing more than a durable and firm Friendship between the two Nations ; blowing up the Feuds on both sides, pretending to take part with each, that they might with less opposition invade their Neighbours, and increase their Naval strength ; but not really purposing it with either, having the same designe of weakening both Parties (for your weakness is his strength) as the *Britans* formerly had in throwing the Apple of Contention between the *Piſts* and the *Scots*, that they might in the end be the better able to overcome both.

When you had Victory in your palms, and Triumphs in your prospect, it was ravished from you by their means.

The *Bishop* of *Manster*, who was his now Majesties Allie, and in Arms against the said *States*, was necessitated to withdraw his Forces ( for the security of his own Territories ) because they sent their Troops against him.

*France* wrought *Denmark* off from your Party, and hindered the *Swedes* to arm in favour of you, and contrived that Affront you suffered ( to your shame and dishonour ) at *Chatham*. They have made it their Master-piece to raise Jealousies between you and the *Dutch* ; and at last sided with the *Dutch* in a War against you, not with any intention for themselves to fight, but to see you destroy each other.

Did

Did they not most treacherously put to the sword and slavery, his Majesties Subjects in *St. Christophers*, plundered them of all which by their industry and providence they had for many years acquired ?

But a Peace at *Breda* being concluded, the *French* were by the Treaty to return to his Majesty *St. Christophers* in such sort as therein is expressed. But instead of performing it according to the true meaning, and the very letter of the Article, they upon several unjust and frivolous pretences, did not deliver it in four years to the Commissioners which were sent to receive it: For it's against the Candor and Integrity of the *French Cabal*, to part with any thing that may be of conveniency for them to keep. But at last they delivered it to *Sir Charles Wheeler*; but before the delivery of it, they destroyed all the Plantations, plundred and carried away all that was there, laid the whole Country waste, and left it in a much worse condition than if it had never been planted.

And as if the detaining of his Majesties Territories had not been sufficient, they interrupted the Trade of his Subjects in those parts, and assuming to themselves the Sovereignty of those Seas, they would not suffer any Ships but their own to sail by or about their *Islands*; and upon no other ground, have brought in as Prizes, and confiscated many Vessels.

In 1674, & 1675. when the *Dutch* and Neighbour-Nations were in War, but *England* in Peace, who thereby expecting a great Trade, bought many *Dutch-built* Vessels; the King of *England* accordingly granted them his License to trade in them, by reason of the Act of Navigation.

But *France*, to hinder the Trade of *England*, issued out an *Edict* for the seizing of all Ships bought in any Enemies Country. And in execution of their *Edicts*, there came out a swarm of *French Capers*, who not onely seized on those *Dutch-built* Ships, though they had his Majesties License, but finding the sweetness of that Trade, seized upon your *English-built* Ships, on pretence they carried Enemies goods, whilst they themselves would be Judges; they did actually seize all *English-built* Vessels meerly laden on the account of being *English* Merchants, and retook many which had been discharged in *France*; they plundered your Ships, and wounded your Sea-men.

There were about 400 sail of your Merchants Ships seized by them in this manner, many of which the *French* did absolutely condemn; and such as were released, were kept some three months, some six months, some twelve months, and others longer; and then were discharged with great damage by expence and plunder in *France*, besides the first affronts and violences. And after all, you lost the intended Fruit of your Voyages; and what was yet worse, they making the most advantages of every thing, got many thousands of your Sea-men by extraordinary Pay to engage in his service. And that which may super-adde Calamity to your Misery, when the *French* did forbear to take your Ships, the *Algerines* (Allies of *France*, and by them set up) have continually pickt up your Merchantmen, and Vassalized your Sea men ever since. And what they take from you, they carry into the *French* Harbours, where the *French* buy the Commodities at their own prices.

I need not tell you the great discouragements your *French Trade* hath for many years lain under, through their unjust practices, and manifold devices.

Nor shall I speak now how by their *Emissaries* and *Factories* of Sedition, they have contrived and brooded a most execrable Plot in *England* and

and other his Majesties Kingdoms; and have sown Divisions, Discontents, and Jealousies amongst his good Subjects; thereby to prevent his Majesties Royal inclinations in giving his assistance to his oppressed Neighbours, against that great Prince.

If these Enormities and Super-injustices of the *French Cabal*, be not sufficient to awaken *England*, considerate men will wonder what *Opiate* hath cast you asleep; and if you be not enchanted by the Magick of *French Pistols*.

I pray, Sir, draw the Curtain; open your eyes, and see if the Liberty of all *Christendom* be not now at stake! Do you think it will add any Trophies to your Glory, when Posterity shall say, It was *England* which advanced the Most *Christian* King into the Throne of an Universal Monarchy?

Is it not your interest to oppose that *Power* which opposeth all *Europe*, and labours to bury it in the Grave of Infamy and Slavery?

If you be backward to give your Assistance, when you may have so many Allies, what will you do when their Forces are broken, and you are enforced singly to *contrast* the Power of *France* and its new Acquests? What you may expect from his *Mightiness*, enquire of the *Duke of Lorraine*, and of the *Princes of Germany*, and they will tell you. The Dominion of the British Sea (which is your Glory, and ought to be your Care) is gone.

He will give Law to your Commerce; and *Navigation* which is now your *Honour*, will be nothing but a *Piracy* to you; and *England*, for want of Trade, (being an Island) will be nothing but a Prison to you.

You which are the great Merchants, and so famous in the world for your Traffick, must become *Higlers* and petty Chapmen under him. Your Men of War (which are now a Terrour to your Neighbours) will be of no use to you, but to make your Slavery the greater: Your gallant Commanders and Sea-men (as the *Romans* served the *Britans* when they had conquered them) will be sent into foreign Dominions to advance their Empire. And if he shall suffer any of you by his favour to grow rich and full, it's onely like Spunges to be squeezed. You must like the Camel down upon your knees, and receive what burthens he shall please to lay upon your backs. You are now a flourishing and well-Crested People, you have your Liberty and Freedoms (which you ought to value above a Crown;) but if you come within the power of *France*, you will be such Slaves, as you will not be capable of a *Jubile*.

Suppose the Most *Christian* King should be so kind and merciful unto you, as to observe his Alliance with you tell he hath reduced all other *Princes* and *States* under his Obedience, yet you cannot but expect *Poliphemus* Curtelie, to be the last which shall be eaten up. Whereas if we all associate and unite, and act potently against that aspiring Prince, we are freed of all fears and jealousies; and it's not possible for him to be other than the *French* King. And then instead of an Universal Monarchy (which is the designe of *France*) there will be established in *Europe* an Universal Peace; of which his Majesty of *Great Britain* will have the honour: for by the power of his Arms it's onely to be effected.

A timely War is less dangerous, than an uncertain Peace; and such is your condition with *France*.

A War will fall upon you; and it's a great oversight to have been so modest as to abide the taking of the first blow. Wisdom teacheth us,  
F that



that in Warlike actions the having of the start, and to strike first, is a great advantage ; it puts the Enemy to the defensive, which is no other than fighting for his own stake.

The *Romans*, as long as they were *Defendants*, were miserable ; and *Antiochus* refusing *Hannibal's* counsel to invade *Italy*, was put to the *defensive*, wherein he lost his Life and Crown.

The charge of the invading *Prince* is certainly known ; if he like not the Attempt, he may desist at pleasure. Whereas the invaded is not onely at the charge to maintain Armies, but his Territories are instantly impoverished, his Revenues deminished, Trade and Commerce laid aside, his good Subjects with fear amazed, the Ill-affected who desirous of change, apt to run to the Enemy ; and many other Mischiefs will fall upon you, whereof you cannot be eased, but at the pleasure of the Invader. Besides, the Money to be disbursed for the War *offensive*, especial with you in *Great Britain*, where Victuals, Arms, Shipping, and other Habiliments for the War abound, runs into the Subjects purse, and the Realm is little or nothing impoverished by it. But to forbid and attend the descents of the Invader (if we be on the defensive part) your Fleet must necessarily be divided ; the consequence whereof (considering the Potency of their Naval power) I am afraid will prove, that you will be too weak in either Squadrons of your shattered Navy.

I should be sorry to see *Great Britain* become a *Province* to the *French Monarchy*, and be made a *Theatre* where the *Tragedy* of *Monsieurs* persecution shall be acted ; and the good *Protestants* there suffer the same Calamities, Banishment, and Miseries for the Liberty of their Conscience, as the poor *Hugonots* have done in *France* for the exercise of their Religion. I do assure you, Sir, you cannot expect better terms than the *Hugonots* now have in *France*. With what Infelicities, pressures in Conscience, and inquietude of Mind, and how precariously they do possess, but not enjoy their Estates, gotten with Sweat, and kept by Care, I need not tell you.

It was not the method of *Christ* to force Belief by Slaughters, or instruct mens Consciences by the Sword ; yet these are the Arguments which they apply to convince those unhappy Souls.

Sir, there is no safety in depending upon the Charity of *France* ; I must tell you again, the onely security of all *Christian Princes* and *States* in *Europe*, is their impuissance to do hurt. The end of War is Peace ; but a Peace with *France* seems to me to be the beginning of War : And though War be a great Evil, yet from all appearances, I dread the consequences of a Peace more. If the Most *Christian* King shall disband his Forces, it's far from being any security, since he may raise them again at his pleasure ; nor is it to be imagined that he will so do, since that were to give his People an opportunity of rebelling, for which he is sensible they are sufficiently prepared, and onely want *Domestick* Heads and Partisans, or foreign Assistance, to rescue them from Tyranny and Oppression.

And whiles so potent a *Monarch* is in Arms, all *Princes* and *States* will be obliged for their own safety, to keep up standing Armies ; which Charges will assuredly undo them : for it's a declared *Maxime* in their Counsels, That there is no better way to ruine the *Princes* and *States* of *Europe*, than to oblige them to keep Armies on Foot. For those require great expences, which will impoverish them, and by consequence precipitate their Ruine.



## [ 19 ]

Just Fears, are a just cause of War; and a preventive War, is a true defensive, as well as a War upon an actual Invasion, though offensively acted.

Hence the *Lacedemonians* (as *Thucydides* tell us) armed against the *Athenians*, by reason of their over-growing Greatness. And *Antiochus*, upon this principle, invited *Prussias* King of *Bithinia* (at that time in League with the *Romans*) to joyn with him in War against them; setting before him a just fear of the over-spreading Greatness of the *Romans*, and that their designe was to reduce all *Kings* and *Princes* under their Obedience, and to make the *State of Rome* an Universal Monarchy; that *Philip* and *Nabis* were already ruinated, and it was his turn to be assaulted next. So that those *Princes* or *States* which do desire too great Monarchies, and seek to enlarge their Dominions, do give a just fear to their Neighbours.

That War is just which is necessary, and then Arms are deemed pious, when they are the last Refuge of those which use them.

In elder time, it passed for an Oracle of Wisdom, *Decrescat Hispania, & non Crescat Gallia.*

If we do make a War against that great Disturber of the Peace of *Europe*, as it's our Safety, so it is Prudence to make it *speedily* and *powerfully*: for if we do not make it *powerfully*, we shall be like the poor woman who bought Coals sufficient to roast her Pig, but laying them on one by one, her Coals were wasted, and her Pig unroasted: And if we do not make it *speedily*, we shall imitate that Emperick who gave Physick to a dead man.

The *Latines* prayed in aid of the *Lavinians* against the *Romans*, but they put off their resolution so long, that when they were going forth of Town to give Summons to them, News came that the *Latines* were defeated; whereupon *Milonius* the *Pretor* said, We shall pay dearly to the *Romans* for this little way we are gone. For if they had resolved not to have given Aid, they had not given offence to the *Romans* by helping of them; and had their Aid come in time with the addition of their own Forces, they might have gained the Victory. But by delays, loss and misfortunes came every way. And whether this may not be the Case of *England*, I submit it to your great judgment.

This is not such a War as was between the *Etolians* and *Archadians*, for a wild Boar, nor for a Cart-load of *Sheep-skins*, as was between *Charles* Duke of *Burgundy* and the *Switzers*; nor like that between the *Scots* and *Picts*, for a few Dogs: but it's *pro aris & focis*. We fight to preserve our own Interest, and to avoid Beggery and Slavery; which will unavoidably fall upon us, if the Ambition of that aspiring Prince be not stinted. When *England* shall vigorously appear against them, the *French King* will be necessitated to desire Peace, and to do Justice. The apprehension of your Forces will be a terror unto him, our Allies will be greatly encouraged, and they with united Forces will act more powerfully. Our Fleets will give them such just fears, that they will be obliged to employ some great part of their Troops to defend their own Coasts; and will be necessitated to quit some of their new Conquests (as they have done *Messina*) to secure their own Dominions.

The conquering of Villages and Towns, are like Bonfires of Straw; but if they meet with a stout opposition, they are mortal as other men, and one good blow will cause a *reverter* of all their new Acquests.

It's

It's storied, that *Charles* the *fifth*, after he had clasped *Germany* almost in his fist, he was forced in the end to go from *Jusprug* as if it had been in a Masque by Torch-light, and to give up every foot in *Germany* that he had gotten. Which I doubt not will be the Hereditary fate of the late Purchases and Conquests of *France*.

I know the Most *Christian King* hath as many experienced Captains and disciplined Souldiers, as any *Prince* in *Europe*; but that sorts to the honour of the English, seeing they ever have had the better of it in all Rencounters, and never left the Field but with Glory.

The *French* Valour lieth to the eye of the lookers on, but the *English* Courage lieth about the Souldiers heart; and the Fury of the *French*, the first blast being over, turns to Fear.

No *King* or *Prince* hath such a spring and seminary of brave Military people, as be in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; and who will be ready to sacrifice their Lives for their King and Country.

Where was *Cesar* in greater danger than in *England*? Where was there a *Prince* that durst challenge him to a single Combat, but in *England*? The *Romans* conquered *Gallia* in ten years, whereas they did not subdue *England* in 200 years; and not then, till they had conquered all the rest of the World: Because they reserved the Conquest of *England* (as Conquerors use to do most commonly in great Enterprizes) for the last and greatest Conquest that they had to do.

If you will consult the *Register* of times, you will observe *England* never had any Encounter with *France*, but it came off with Honour.

I shall give you a particular List of some of them in an Historical truth, no ways strouted nor made greater by Language; that's becoming a General at the head of an Army, when they are going to Battle, but not with me: And I shall begin with that at *Cressy*, the first great Battel.

That Heroick King *Edward* the *third*, having been provoked by divers Affronts that *Philip* of *Valois* the *French King* had offered him, goes over in person into *France* with an Army of 8000 men at Arms, and 10000 Archers; he takes with him his Son the *Prince* of *Wales* and *Duke* of *Guyenne*, being but fifteen years of age (called afterwards the *black Prince*) to train him up in feats of Arms. Landing in *Normandy*, he marches within ten miles of *Paris*; and after divers Skirmages, a Battel was appointed. King *Edward* incamped near a Village called *Cressy*; the *French Kings* Army was above twice the number, consisting of above 60000, with all the Flower of the *French* Nobility. The Battle began, the Fight grew hot and doubtful, insomuch that the Commanders sent to King *Edward* (who was gotten into a Wind-mill, where, as from a Centinel, he might behold the face of the Enemy) to come up with more power: the King asked the Messenger whether his Son was hurt or slain; and being answered no, he replies, Then tell them who sent you, that so long as my Son is alive, they send no more to me; for my will is, that he have the honour of the day. The Fight on both sides was very furious; the *French King* having his horse killed under him, withdrew; which being known to the *English*, it added so to their Courage, that they soon after won the Field. This Battle was so bloody, that there were none made Prisoners, but all put to the Sword. The number of the slain *French*, surmounted the whole Army of the *English*; for the number of the slain were about thirty thousand.

The

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The next great Victory in *France*, was the Battle of *Poitiers*. The *black Prince* being tapred up now to a good growth, was sent by advice of Parliament to *Gascony*, the Truce being expired : He ravaged the Country as far as *Tourane*. *John* the *French King* raiseth a potent Army more numerous than that at *Cressy*; and going to finde out the *Prince of Wales*, found him about *Poitiers*, not much above 10000 men effective in his Army. The *Prince* finding the main strength of the *French Army* consisted in Horse, he intrenched amongst the Vineyards; where when the *French Cavalry* entred, being wrapt and intangled amongst the Vines, the *English Archers* did so ply and gall them, that thereby being defeated and put to rout, the whole Army was soon defeated. In this Battel King *John* himself was taken prisoner, whom the *Prince* brought into *England*, where he continued four years : And as the *French Historians* themselves confess, he was so nobly received, that he knew not whether he was a *free King* or a *Captive*. Besides Lords and Nobles that were slain in this Battle, there were upon the whole more *French* slain, than the whole *English Army* was in number.

We will now to *Agencourt*. *Henry* the *fifth*, that Mirror of Princes, being come to the Crown, he cast his eyes towards *France*; and for claiming of his Title, he sent the *Duke of Exeter* in a magnificent Embassie to demand the Crown : but receiving no satisfactory Answer, but rather a kind of Jeer, the *Dauphin* sending him a Sack full of *Racket-balls* to pass away his time, hereplied, That for every one of those Balls, he had so many *Fiery Bullets* to shoot at the proudest Terrets in *France*, as he should shortly find. And he was as good as his word : for he presently got over, and encountering the *French Army* at *Agencourt*, he gave it an utter Overthrow, and took more prisoners than his own Army had Souldiers. And this *King* made so absolute a Conquest of *France*, that *Charles* the *seventh* of *France*, like a poor *Roy de Juidot*, confined himself to *Burges*, where (having cashiered his Retinue) he was found in a little Chamber at supper with a Napkin laid before him, a Rump of Mutton, and two Chickens.

There were many other Warlike Encounters betwixt *England* and *France*, whereof the stories are full; and it's observed, that the *English* at most were but half, sometimes not the third or fourth part in number to the *French*, in the Engagements. And though the *Scots* did always confederate with the *French* against *England*, and when the *King of England* was in *France*, would for diversion invade *England*, yet *England* bore up single and victoriously against them both.

I must beg your pardon, if I cannot omit one story. *Edward* the *third* being engaged in *France* with his Army, *David* King of *Scots* with about 60000 men (being a Confederate with the *French King*) invaded *England* : Queen *Philippa*, with the *Archbishop* of *Tork*, the Lords and the Knights of the North, encountered the Kings Army and utterly defeated it : The *Scottish King* was taken prisoner, and reserved as a Present for *Edward* the *third*, when he returned out of *France*, to keep company with *John* the *French King*, taken prisoner by the *black Prince*. And there were but six weeks difference between both Victories.

Nor were such high Exploits performed by the *English* on Land onely, but by Sea they have been as glorious. *Philip* the *French King*, not long before the Battle of *Cressy*, to hinder *Edward* the *third*'s return into *France*, got a mighty Navy in equipage of 200 sail of Ships besides Gallies



in the Haven of *Sluce*; whereof King *Edward* being advertised, prepared such another Fleet, and encounters the *French* with such resolution and success, having the Wind and Sea for him, that he thereby defeated the whole Navy, slew about 30000 men, and so returned with mighty Triumphs, and the Admiration of all *Europe*.

In the year 1591. was that memorable Fight of an English Ship called the *Revenge*, under the command of Sir *Richard Greenfield*; memorable, I say, beyond credit, and to the hight of some Heroical Fable. This Ship for the space of 15 hours, sat like a Stag amongst Hounds at the Bay, and was feiged and fought with in turn, by 15 great Ships of *Spain*, part of a Navy of 55 Ships in all, the rest like Abettors looking on a far off. And amongst the 15 Ships that fought, the great *St. Philip* was one, a Ship of 1500 Tun, Prince of the twelve Sea-Apostles, which was glad when she was shifted off from the *Revenge*. This brave Ship the *Revenge* was manned only with 200 men, whereof 80 laid sick; yet nevertheless, after a Fight maintained 15 hours, and three Ships of the Enemies sunk by her side, and 15 more of them so torn and battered that they perished in the Sea before they could recover the *Tercera*; that gallant Ship never came to be entred, but was taken by composition, the Enemies themselves having in admiration the Vertue of the Commander, and the whole Tragedy of that Ship.

Nor doth that Primitive innate Courage and Gallantry languish or decline in them (as some think the World doth, and as we find it doth in other Nations, as the *Jews* and *Greeks*) but it continueth in the same height. The ancient Stoutness and Gallantry of the *English*, appeared in many Traverses of the late War here in *England*. The *French* King confessed that the Brigade of *English* before *Dunkirk*, though not the fifth part of the Army, did contribute most to the taking of that Preditory Town.

And I doubt not but when his sacred Majesty of *Great Britain* shall be pleased to give his Royal *Fiat*, we shall see the same valiant Blood is now channelled in the English veins; and that every Royal Subject will be ready to take *Talbot's* Motto upon his Sword, *Sum Talboti pro defendendo Rege contra inimicos*.

So that if the King of *Great Britain* will take into his Royal Consideration, the Calamities and miserable condition that all *Europe* is in by the Oppression of the *French*, and their designs of an Universal Monarchy, and potently act, having such a Warlike People, with the rest of the Confederates; the Reduction of *France* to its ancient Boundaries, would be no great work.

I doubt not but that the *Parliament* of *England* will give Aid cheerfully, (and Sir *Money* is the *Primum Mobile* that moves the Spheres, which are the hearts and hands of men;) his Majesties Fame and Power will be admired, his Subjects highly pleased, the Nations under his Scepter feared, and it will beget a perfect Union between his Majesty and all his People; who in a grateful and humble acknowledgement of his Royal Care and Protection of them, will bring to his service a Magazine of Hearts, and to his Coffers a Treasury of Money, which is the Sovereign Cordial that gives life to all Warlike Actions.

What the towering and ambitious thoughts of the *French* King signifie, his great Preparations by Sea do manifest to all *Europe*: for he hath raised a greater Naval strength in few years since he hath applied himself to it, than

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than ever yet was raised in the world for the time. And if he shall yearly increase in power at Sea as he hath done for these twenty years last past, the whole world will not be Elbow room enough for his Ambition.

Having so prodigiously advanced in number of Ships, after he hath gained more Harbours and Ports, as it's his designe, and bred up experienced Commanders and Sea-men (as no *Prince* can be more industrious) he will then pull off the Vizard, and declare that all *Kings, Princes, and States*, must give Obedience to his *Monarchy*, and become his *Vassals*.

Sir, it's certain, that those States whose Renown are greatest in Story, did establish their Supream Dominion upon the Power they attained at Sea. The *Romans* did not impose upon the World their Laws, till they had forced the Sea to receive and acknowledge them. Had they not set out Warlike Fleets, they had never accomplished their glorious designs; they had never extended their Frontiers beyond *Italy*, nor brought down the pride of *Carthage*, nor triumphed over all the *Crowns* on Earth.

The *Egyptians*, the *Persians*, and the *Grecians*, considered the Sea as the best Support of their Dominions. And whether the designs of the *French King* be not as large and great by his *Naval Preparations*, as those of the *Romans, Grecians*, or of the *Egyptian* or *Persian Monarchs* were; it's well suiting with the Wisdom of the *Kings and Princes of Europe* to consider.

Be assured, Sir, if this Sea Gyant be not timely destroyed, but suffered like the *Crocodile* yearly to grow in Magnitude, it will devour all *Europe*, and with it it's Trade, Traffick, and Commerce. Therefore it's *Europe's* Interest, as well as *England's* Safety, to destroy the *Naval Power of France*, which (with the conjunction of our Allies) may be effected; who being once brought down there, their Commerce will wax feeble, and by consequence their Power at Land will soon abate: For we have observed, that until the *Spaniards* lost his *Maritime Forces*, he maintained his designs for the *Universal Monarchy* very vigorously, and never sunk till then.

The *French King* of late is become so potent at Sea, that if he should be pleased to give trouble to you or to any other Prince, we must be at his discretion how kindly he will deal with us. And, Sir, it's no wisdom in any Prince, to depend upon the discretion of another.

That Prince or State which is Master at Sea, may make a descent at what place they please, unless they be hindered by a Fleet of equal strength; and except every Creek, Port, and sandy Bay, had a powerful Army to make opposition: If we have an Army in one place (as in all places we cannot have) then they may by reason of their Fleet, transport their Army to another place; and so take, ransack, burn, and consume the Country round about: as *Agathoxles* did, who being besieged by the *Carthagenians* in *Syracuse*, put his Army into his Fleet and transported it into *Africa*; and the *Carthagenians*, for security of *Carthage*, and their own Dominions, were forced to raise their Siege and follow with their Army.

It thinks the Miseries, Devastations, and Infelicities *England* heretofore suffered by the Naval power of the *Danes*, might teach you wisdom for the future. Sir, to deal plainly with you, it's impossible for any *Maritime Country* (as *England* is) though the Coasts thereof be never so well fortified, to defend it self against a powerful Enemy that is Master at Sea; for a good Fleet of Men of War under a wise and judicious conduct, need

need not fear to pass by the best appointed Fort in *Europe* ( though never so many great Artillery are planted in it ) with the help of a good Tyde and leading-gale of Wind.

The *Duke of Parma* besieged *Antwerp*, and finding no possibility to master it otherwise than by Famine, laid his Cannon on the bank of the River so well to purpose, and so even with the face of the water, that he thought it impossible for the least Boat to pass by ; yet the *Hollanders* and *Zelanders*, to sell their Butter and Cheese at *Antwerp* where it was dear, passed in their Boats by the mouth of the *Duke's* Cannon in despite of it, when a strong Westerly wind and a Tyde of flood favoured them , as also with a contrary wind and ebbing water they turned back again.

In the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*, when *Denmark* and *Sweden* were at war, our *Eastland* Fleet bound for *Liesland*, was forbidden by the King of *Denmark* to trade with the Subjects of his Enemies ; and he threatened to sink their Ships, if they came through the Streights of *Elfenore* : Yet our Merchants having a Ship of her Majesties called the *Minion* to defend them, made their adventure, and sustained some Vollies of shot, but kept on their course. The King made all the provisions he could to stop or sink them at their return ; but the *Minion* leading the way, did not onely pass without loss, but did beat down with their Artillery a great part of the Fort of *Elfenore* ; and the Fleet of Merchants which followed went thorough without any wound received.

Sir, *Imperator Maris, est Dominus Terræ* : When *Augustus* and *Mark Anthony* at *Actium* fought by Sea for the Empire of the World, *Mark Anthony's* Fleet being defeated, all the People and the Souldiers submitted to *Augustus*, well knowing they could never effect any thing by Land, as long as *Augustus* continued Master at Sea.

*Aladine* a poor Fisherman, but famous for his great Actions at Sea, *Abraham* King of *Achen* in *Sumatra* preferred him to be his Lord-Lieutenant, and married him to one of his Kindswomen, and gave him the care and protection of his Son and Heir ; *Aladine* having the Naval power at his command, he murdered the Son and Heir, and usurped the Kingdom to himself, there being no resistance to be made against him, because of his great power at Sea.

The State of *Genoa*, by the advantage of their Naval power, beat the *Pisans* out of *Sardinia*, *Corfica*, and the *Baleares* in the *Mediterranean*, and having vanquished the *Venetian* Fleet, they took the *Island* of *Chioggia* not far from *Venice*. But the *Genoeses* being disabled in their Naval power by the oversight of *Peter Doria* their Admiral, they lost their *Islands* in the *Mediterranean* to the King of *Aragon* ; *Capha* and *Pera*, and the *Islands* of *Lesbos* and *Chio*, with some other *Islands* in the *Greek* Sea, to the *Grand Seignior* ; and most of their Holds in *Tuscany* ( whereof they had a good part ) to the *Florentines* ; and had nothing left them but *Liguria*, and the *Isle* of *Corfica*, and were enforced to put themselves into the protection of the *Spaniard* to preserve the same. Therefore, Sir, you may please to observe how highly *England* ( being an *Island* ) is concerned in point of interest and safety, to advance their own Naval power, and to abate that of others.

There are three great Naval powers in *Europe* ; *England*, *France*, and those of the *United Provinces* ; if the King of *England* joyn with one of them, they will give Law to the third : But what if *France* and the *United Provinces* should joyn against *England* ( as you have great reason to fear they



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they will) if by his Majesties transcendent Wisdom and happy Conduct, they be not prevented; then you can expect nothing but Confusion and Ruine to fall upon you. Therefore it will be the very test of Prudence in this juncture, to retrench the power of *France* by Sea; that being done, from his Land-forces there can be no great danger to you. At Land the Ballance is indifferently even, but at Sea (which ought to be your care) there is no counterpoize. The fighting and destroying of his Land-Armies, doth not weaken him at Sea; but when his new Conquests shall be taken from him, or a Peace concluded, if he should put an Army into his Navy, no Prince in *Europe* is able to hinder his Attempts; and those vast sums of money which he raiseth out of his Subjects, if they should be employed in Traffick, he being so potent at Sea, all States and Princes, especially *England*, would be undone.

To strike the *French* King at Sea (where his strength lieth) is to cut his *Sampsons* locks; it's a *Coup de Maître*; a Master blow; a War in his bowels. To give him some light hurt, is dangerous to us, and to give our selves an incurable wound; as the Horse did, who falling out with the Lion, bruised him with his heel; but not long after his Carcass became food for the Lion. Great Potentates are not at all to be touched; but if they be, they must be made sure from taking Revenge.

Some considerate Princes have begun a War rather with the *Sword* than with a *Trumpet*: So delt the *Aragonoies* with the *French* in *Naples*; *Henry* the second of *France* with the *Imperialists*, when he went to *Brisac* to surprize as many places as he could, before the War broke out; *Don John* with the *Netherlands*; and *Philip* the second of *Spain* with the *English*, when in the great *Imbargo* he took all your Ships and Goods in his Ports. And may not the *French* King (if the *Capitio* shall take him) before any denunciation or indiction of War, set upon your Fleet of Merchants Ships at Sea? he having such powerful Squadrons of Men of War in all parts, that no Fleet of Merchants with their Convoys, are able to make any opposition, but they must be sunk or taken.

As it was the oversight of the *Kings* and *Princes* of *Europe* (if you please to pardon the expression) to suffer *France* to grow up to that Potency and Magnitude of Power at Sea; so it will be their wisdom and interest to act in consort till they have destroyed it.

Methods and Arts  
 TO  
 Retrench the Potency  
 OF  
**F R A N C E**  
 BY  
 L A N D and S E A,  
 And to Confine that  
**Ambitious Monarch**  
 Within his Antient  
 DOMINIONS and TERRITORIES.

*Humbly submitted to the grave Consideration of the KINGS  
 and PRINCES of Europe.*

1. **A**LL *Kings, Princes, and States* to associate, and vigorously to act in concert against him, and to make *France* the seat of the War; if not, by his Contributions and the oppression of his Armies (by which he maintains his own Forces) they will all be ruined, their Countries wasted, and themselves must be submitted to his power. Whereas by making *France* the seat of the War, the Souldiers will be enriched with the Spoils, support themselves at the cost and charges of *France*, and the *French King* will be necessitated to draw his Souldiers out of his new Acquests, for the defence of his ancient Dominions; and so they will revert.

2. All

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2. All *Princes* and *States* to call home their Subjects which are in the *French* service, and by that means his Infantry will be weak and inconsiderable: For from the slavery of that people, such is their unfitness for War, that whenever they shall be confined to home for Souldiers, they will be constrained as well as contented to live in peace with their Neighbours.

3. No *Prince* or *State* to suffer any Levies of Men or Horse to be made in any of their Dominions or Territories, as they have done to the great recruits of the *French* Armies, and to the ruine of themselves and Countries.

4. To interdict all Trade and Commerce with *France*, is a good Expedient; for their Trade being obstructed, their power at Land will soon become feeble and weak (the first giving life to the latter;) and if he shall lay Taxes upon his people (their Trade being taken away) it may hazard the Obedience of his Subjects, and his Souldiers will mutiny for want of Pay.

5. The three Estates General of that Kingdom must be re-established with their Privileges. There being *four-score* and *ten thousand* Gentlemen in *France*, if they will draw their Swords and joyn with the honest Commonalty there, and with the Confederate Princes which are now in War against *France*, (which will be a generous and heroick act in them) they may deliver their own necks from that Yoke of Slavery which now oppresses them, and all *Europe* from destruction. For whiles the *French* King can exercise the *despotical* power over his Slaves (rather than Subjects) and without controul levy what sums of Money he pleases from them, they must never expect to enjoy their just Rights and Liberties, or any the *Kings*, *Princes*, or *States* his Neighbours, to live in Peace or Tranquility.

6. *France* must be opposed in all its endeavours for farther addition and engreating his Dominions, especially on his designs upon the *Spanish* and *United Netherlands*; for should he gain the Harbours and Ports there, he would be formidable, and an over Match for all *Europe*. Therefore if the Crown of *Spain* had no Dominions in the Low-Countries, it's their interest, and in true policy they ought to preserve the *United Provinces* entire; and they ought to venture all their Kingdoms, and to the very last of their men to prevent (if it be possible) so formidable Accession of *Naval* power to the *French*. After which no *Plate-Fleet* or *Gallions* could never come safe, nor consequently their Monarchy stand much longer. And the *King* of *Great Britain* ought (be it spoken with dew reverence to his person) to have the same Sentiments; for if the *French* should become Masters of the *United Provinces*, farewell the *Sovereignty* of the *British* Seas; farewell all Trade and Commerce of *England*; and his Majesty may bid adieu to the best branch of his Royal Revenue, the Customs.

7. The *King* of *Great Britain* ought to make himself *Protector* of the Protestant Kings and Princes in *Europe*; and the *Cantons* of the *Switzers*,  
and



and the *Grifons*, are to be invited ( for their security, and because they can give trouble to *France* ) into the Association : For though formerly with great reason ( being jealous of the House of *Austria*, because of their pretensions to them ) they held a good correspondency with *France*, yet now it's their interest all to be jealous of the growing Greatness of the *French King*, and to be firm to the House of *Austria*, and to hold a true Friendship with them.

8. A firm and sincere Friendship is to be established between the *King of Great Britain* and the *United Provinces* : For they being the two great *Naval Powers* in *Europe*, are by Providence so seated with admirable advantages, and for the security of themselves and of the *Spanish Netherlands* ; that when there is a true intelligence preserved between them, their greatest Enemies cannot prejudice either, but they can give a check to any aspiring Prince, and be as an invincible Bulwark against the spreading and ambitious designs of *France*.

9. *England* must unite within it self, and settle a kindness and friendship amongst themselves, ( Concord or Division being the life or death of a State ; ) for it's a *Jargon* of the *French Cabal* to disseminate Factions and Divisions amongst them, that they may not contribute their Assistance to the relief of oppressed *Europe*, or to obstruct the designs of the *French King* for the *Universal Monarchy*.

10. Firebands are to be sent into *France* to raise Divisions amongst them, as the *French Cabal* send their Engineers ( to the disturbance of *Europe* ) to make a Combustion in other Princes Dominions, that he may with more safety drive on his designs.

11. Councils must be adapted to present necessity ; and it's imprudence to expose security to apparent danger. In great concerns, it's not wisdom to rest in the dull Counsels of what is lawful, but to proceed to quick Resolutions of what is safe.

12. The *Monarchy* of *France* is to be *cantonized* into several Principalities, which was aimed at by the *Grandeess* of *France* in the time of *Henry the third* ; and had been effected, if the ambition of *Philip the second* would have given way to it.

13. It's the true interest of *Europe* to oppose the *French* designs ; and in case there be any occasion of making use of them against some others, not to accept of their Assistance longer or further than publick Utility requires it ; nor to suffer them to proceed after the danger is over. As it was practised in the Peace of *Passaw*, in the time of *Henry the second*, and that of *Munster*, in both which the *French* were stopped in their full career by their own *Allies*.

14. All *Kings*, *Princes*, and *States* of the *Protestant Communion*, to enter into mutual Leagues and Alliances, and to be incorporated into one Union ; that by their joyn't strength they may put a stop to the progress of the *French Arms*. It will be prudence in them to rely upon their own strength, and not to depend upon the Aids or Auxiliaries of others : 1. Be-  
cause

cause all the Councils of Catholick Princes, are governed by the *Jesuits* and *French Pensioners*. 2. The designs of the *Conclave* of *Rome*, and of the *Jesuits*, are to extirpate out of *Christendom* the Protestant Religion; which they have concluded to effect by the Arms of *France* (that are solely influenced by the *Jesuits*,) and to re-establish the *Papacy* in its ancient Glory and Splendor: for the fall of the one, is the exaltation of the other. 3. All Wars raised between *Catholick Princes*, are contrived to be but as *Decoys* to draw *Heretical Princes* (as they are pleased to call them) into Ruine and Destruction; and are used as delusory Mediums drawn before their eyes, that they may more securely advance the interest of the *Mitre*, and the designs of the Triple-Crown. If his Majesty of *Swedeland* managed by *France*, his Majesty of *Denmark*, his Electoral Highness of *Brandenburgh*, and his Highness of *Zell*, managed by the Imperial Court, will take the pains to search to the bottom by what Artifices they have all four been engaged in War, which hath wasted their Subjects, ruined their Countries and Estates; they will find it was the designs of *Rome* (managed in conjunction with the *Cabal* of *France*) to bring Ruine and Confusion to them all. During the late War, the Protestant States of the *Empire* have been so miserably harrassed by Winter-quarters, Exactions, Burnings, and Contributions, that most of the Protestant Imperial Towns have been almost ruined, while the hereditary Countries, *Bavaria*, and many other of the *Roman Communion* in the *Empire*, have been so little oppressed, that they scarce felt it. It's a concluded *Maxime* of the *Rota*, That where there is an Enemy compounded of several and distinct interests, the best Medium to effect their Ruine, is to divide the Powers, and to engage one against the other; by that means you will bring a Consumption to their Forces, and a Ruine to their Estates; and you must fortifie your selves upon their Fronteers, that when you please you may make sudden Inroads into their Countries. With what dexterity this hath been practised during the late Wars in *France*, all *Europe* is very sensible,

15. To restore the *Hugonots* of *France* to the full exercise of their Religion, according to the *Edicts* of *Hen. 3.* and *Hen. 4.* (which were confirmed to them by Act of Parliament;) and for their security and the performance thereof, that they have cautionary Towns put into their hands, as they formerly had. This would be not onely an Act of Piety to deliver those poor people from Tyranny and Slavery, but an Act of Prudence, that he could not safely issue out with his Armies to the disturbance and undoing of his Neighbours,

16. The Kings of *Great Britain*, *Spain*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, and the States of the *United Provinces*, ought to associate by Sea, and every one to set forth such a number and Quota of their Ships as shall be agreed upon. If the Naval Forces of *France* be at Sea, they must be fought (except the *French King* be Prince of the Air, and can post his Ships at Sea, as he doth his Forces at Land, that they cannot be attacked, as it's said, though that imagination was confuted at the Relief of *Mons*) if they be in Harbour, and will not take the Sea, they must be fired, which under the favour of a good Wind and Tyde may be effected, notwithstanding their Castles and Forts.

17. To maintain Fleets constantly upon the Coasts of *France*, is necessary to keep in his Ships outward bound, and to interrupt his Ships of the *Indies* ; to meet with the Fishers of *New-found Land*, and to sink and destroy them ; to forbid Strangers to bring him supplies of Pitch, Tar, Masts, Munition, &c. to burn as many of his *Maritime Towns*, and the Shipping in them as they can ; and also such as are not far within the Land, as shall be within their power ; and to give leave by Letters of Reprizal to as many of the Subjects of the Confederates, as will adventure to Sea. These Fleets are to be furnished with such a number of men, as may be able to make an Invasion into such a part of *France*, as shall be thought most convenient to the purpose : So the Heads of the Parties in *France* must be consulted, and made to part with such places as shall be taken, till the French King shall be constrained to submit to Reason and Justice.

18. Notwithstanding the great noise the number of the *French Ships* make in the world, yet they may be reduced by Sea ; 1. Because they have no Ports in the narrow Seas. 2. None very good on this side the *Mediterranean*, save *Brest* in *Britany*, and the new-made Haven at *Rochford* upon the River of *Clarent*, but that is so deep on the Bay of *Biscay*, as it's out of all *Maritime* course, except to their own Country. 3. The Ports and Harbours which they have, are so far distant from each other, that their Naval Forces may be destroyed by our Fleets before they can unite. Therefore nothing ought to be more the care and endeavours of the King of *Great Britain*, and of the *United Provinces*, than to keep the *French King* from any more Ports or Harbours than he now hath : for that Prince which hath many Ships and few Harbours, is of as little consideration, as that Prince which hath many Ports and Harbours, but few Ships. Nothing multiplies Sea-men, but Foreign Commerce ; and nothing so much that, as plenty of good Ports, Harbours, and safe Coasts ; (of which, to the comfort of *Europe* I speak it, *France* is wanting :) but if we delay to lower the Sails of their Ambition, until they have furnished themselves further with Ports and Havens, they will soon prove too great to be dealt withal. Therefore, I say, it's the true interest of the King of *Great Britain*, and of the *States* of the *United Provinces*, and for them indispensably necessary, to destroy the *French* in their Naval strength ; *New-found-Land-Fishery*, and their *West India Trades*, which are their Nursery for Sea-men. By this means their Navigation being destroy'd, their Trade will decay, and their Power at Land soon disband. No one Prince hath such advantages against the *French*, as the King of *Great Britain* hath, by reason of *Tangier* ; which is so advantageously situated, that it surveys the greatest Thoroughfare of Trade and Commerce in the world ; no Ship can pass in or out of the *Mediterranean* unobserved from thence. The *French* have more business in and about the *Streights*, and frequent the *Streights-mouth* with more Shipping of one sort or other, than any two Nations in *Christendom* ; from whence your Ships riding at Anchor, may weigh, or slip, and speak with all People that pass in or out, and may sink or take all Ships which sail that way ; none can escape without a strong Convoy, which will eat up all their gains ; and they will think it more prudence, during a War with *England*, to suspend their Trade, than with so much charge and hazard to prosecute it.

19. *France*



19. *France* being reduced in its Naval strength, it will be the interest of the *King of Great Britain*, and of the *States of the United Provinces*, to stint *France* for the future as to the number of Ships which he shall keep; as the *Pope*, the *States of Italy*, *Kingdom of Naples* and *Sicily*, *Grand Duke*, *State of Genoa*, and *Grand Master of Malta*, keep by agreement such a limited number of Gallies and Men of War; that one may not give occasion of trouble or jealousy to the other.

These Methods being observed, *France* may be compared to a man which grasps a handful of fine Sand (in hopes to keep it;) if he holds it loose, all runs from him; if hard, but little remains; which agreeth with the *Italian Proverb*, *Chi troppo abbraccio, poco stringe*; He who graspeth too much, retaineth but little.

Sir, I must tell you again, there is no trusting to the Charity of *France*; Incredulity is the best sinew of Wisdom; *Nihil credendo, & omnia cavendo, tuti crimus*: And the most *Christian King* will at last understand, that it's easier to make Subjects than to keep them; for men may submit to the force of Arms, but they will never obey but a just power. Present Successes are no Hostages to secure those which receive them of a perpetual Felicity, and the most uninterrupted Success cannot calcine an unjust action to the purity of Vertue. Cruel Empires, though they be absolute, are not lasting. Upon uncertain moments, do the fortune of Battles and the fate of Kingdoms depend.

But you were pleased to say, That I have no kindness for *France*; I do assure you, Sir, I have that honour and regard for *France*, that whereas now there is but one *King of France*, I wish there were twenty.

Sir, I am fearful I have stained too much Paper: I must with *Apelles*, *Manum de Tabulâ*; I beg your pardon for this interruption, and am,

Sir,

Your faithful Servant.

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FINIS.